



Look out Ariel!
Denise grad
about to be
national champion
Page 15

SPOKE

A LEARNING NEWSROOM FOR JOURNALISM STUDENTS



**Living
the fair life**
David's man
says it's
in his blood
Page 9

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2014

CONESTOGA COLLEGE, KITCHEN, ONT.

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43RD YEAR — PG. 16

Union strikes back

By JESSICA WILSON

Abandoned cars, frustrated drivers and police were the order of the day as Conestoga College's striking support staff workers held up the doors, other staff and faculty the first day back to school.

More than 5,000 college support workers went on strike at 25 Ontario community colleges on Sept. 1, rejecting the employer offer of a 4.5 per cent salary increase over three years with no cost-of-living.

Melvin Johnson, president of Local 16 of the Ontario Public Service Employees Union, said they are not striking for the stars and the moon, and despite negotiating it was not expecting the rate just met wage inflation as the kind of economy (GDP) wants job protection against the loss of part-time and low-paying hours, she said.

"You get tired and it is a

month's problem. They want to make it up to a year and then get rid of you. Why would you put someone in a problem for a year? That's not wrong," said Johnson.

John Tishara, Conestoga College president, said the college support staff salaries range from \$20,000 to \$40,000 and a nine per cent wage increase over three years is way beyond what has been considered normal in the academic sector. They said the college offer was the wrong rate and that OPCSU has been overreaching.

In addition, there has been a misconception by many people in the community, who believe the college has not been hiring support staff, but within the last five years the college has hired 57 full-time staff, said Tishara.

"If they were not important, then someone should have asked me why we have 377

support staff if they're not worth anything, but they have chosen to make and have chosen to walk out at a time that would maximize the impact on students," he said.

Melvin Johnson, a first-year political business student, said she has been frustrated with the changes the school has had to make because of the strike.

"I have had to wait in lines for the bookstore because of the reduced hours and waited two hours in line at the OPCSU office," she said.

It was unfortunate, Tishara said, that after the talks between the college and the union broke down, the union went on strike without warning on the offer and despite the college's efforts, leaving the students to face the brunt of it all.

"Don't put me wrong in this case, I, the management, will do things if people have been putting in professional hours

in order to keep the college up and running," he said.

However, Johnson said going on strike was not to mock management's poor offer. Instead the workers went against college support staff to have a better future. She also said the workers want to be back inside with the students, not on the picket line.

"We have been at this since June and management has stalled until the last week of August, in having monetary issues at my level, the wage and benefits, to the table," she said.

However, Tishara said the discussion will be successful if both sides walk together at the table. At all previous bargaining between OPCSU and the college had not occurred.

"Overall, I think we are negotiating and I think it's going to get better and not worse," he said.



PHOTO BY JEFF MANNING
Melvin Johnson, president of OPCSU Local 1628, is one of more than 500 Conestoga College support staff workers out on strike.

Students affected by labour dispute

By JEFF MANNING

The new school year at Conestoga got off to a more turbulent start than normal on Sept. 1, with students, faculty and staff having to cross the picket line.

The Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU) strike started on Sept. 1, but the work stoppage occurred on the first day of classes.

The main problem occurred when people stood in front of cars, preventing people from getting into the parking lot. At that time, the parents talked to the drivers and passengers about why they were on strike. However, traffic backed up for kilometers on Highway 401, making students late for class.

Conestoga College released a statement on how to deal with the parents and encouraged students to visit the school's website www.conestoga.on.ca for further information.

The students again regarding the strike is cited,



PHOTO BY JEFF MANNING

A long line of cars starts in front of the college. It is a picture of people and vehicles the morning for the support staff strike at Conestoga College. Delays of nearly two hours on the first day of school caused frustration for many at the Germ campus.

with some waiting while others have to leave the strike is important.

Second-year business administration management student, Kaitlyn Horner, spoke about how the strike

impacted the strike and realized that there was a reason for everything.

"As frustrating as the situation may be, I understand, I know that students have known in previous years

with different staff and it can be very difficult for students, students' families and the staff on strike," he said.

Manning, who is also a second-year program advisory committee representative, said, "I feel that the majority of the students are putting all the blame on the support staff that are not on the picket line and they aren't willing to listen or hear the whole story."

However, Vicki Manning is one of the more frustrated students.

"The first year design business design student is beyond mad about the strike and was happy to share his complaints."

He commented on several of the big issues impacting the reduced hours at the bookstore.

"We students, you have people waiting at 3:00 p.m. before it starts, and students come from all 500 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and they are still waiting. That is unacceptable," he said.

Manning also said Grand River Transit's decision to not cross the picket line was an "unfortunate decision for us." He also said, and wants this strike to be settled.

Around the school many students have reduced hours.

During the first week of classes the bookstore was only open from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Since then, the bookstore has extended its hours to 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Other major services affected include the recreation centre which has been closed except for students using it for academic purposes and the Registrar's Office which handles coursework and class selection.

For a complete list of affected services, go to the college's home page and check the information regarding college services.

For more strike-related stories and photos, see Pages 3, 4 and 15.

Strike hits the road

By RYAN KOBUR

Driving onto the Dean campus on the first day of school, delays were to be expected. Not only was it the first day of college for many students, but the strike by the Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU) was expected to slow things down a bit.

That was an understatement. People crowded along on the night bus turned lines going into the campus for what seemed an eternity. More than was bad enough, but the people who were backed up onto Highway 401 must have felt like they were in hell. When they finally managed to turn onto Dean Valley Drive, the real fun began. According to a Stop & Shop in the Waterloo Region, around 500 vehicles were waiting around with signs and Tom Harkin coffins in their hands. They were stopping almost all drivers as they handed out pamphlets and gave a little spiel on the reasons for the strike.

There is no problem with support workers in Ontario if all colleges going on strike. If they truly believe their demands mean money, benefits or job security, they have every right to take it in the public eye.

But when they showed up on their buses and trucks late on the first day of school, that's a problem. They've said they want to put students first, but they caused many students to be late on one of the most important days of the year.

There's nothing wrong with picketing in front of the school to stand up for what you believe in. On the other hand, there is a reason to stop almost every car that that causes by and left the drivers who they are doing that. Besides, it already knew one of the reasons, support staff want more money. There hasn't been a strike in recent history that meant no money. The union requested a pay increase of 4.6 per cent over three years, demanding instead a 5 per cent annual increase over three years.

Students may be disappointed that some colleges were not on a holiday at the moment, but their real frustration is being caused by the long delays in the early morning hours.

Students do not have the power to pay the workers a raise so why do the students feel the need to target them? They should stop talking to the students and start talking to the people who can help and fix it.

We urge both sides to start talking to each other, and get a deal done. For everyone's sake.

Letters are welcome

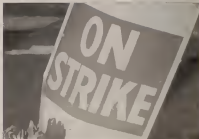
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Spoke reserves the right to add any letter for publication. Address envelopes should be:

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As the strike stretched into its 15th day, there is frustration on all sides.

Parking way overpriced

Prices for student drivers only dropped

Parking permits have a nice air of market stuff. Faculty and students pay and get their permits easily — or at least it isn't that way.

In 2007-2008 parking was just over \$200, but has gradually increased since then to \$450 for an actual year. Why the \$70 jump to now?

It certainly appears to be a money grab.

The money helps cover costs such as those removal and maintenance, but in the end it's \$70 per permit for an annual pass really seems a bit high. Students have enough to worry about without throwing in a few hundred dollars a year to park their vehicle.

The problem isn't just with the price. Staff and students are paying for permits that don't even contain a parking spot, especially in lots 10-14. The school is selling more permits than spots available.

The rationale isn't even a stretch across Monday through Friday. However, just because everyone's a subscriber doesn't



Jessica Martin
Opinionist

has up perfectly. Don't even students want to be on campus? Students still come to school to access the resources available in school activities, study in the library or to talk to a teacher or tutor.

Colleges should consider raising a common such as the one at the Wilfrid Laurier campus in Brampton. Instead of just purchasing a permit for a parking lot, they buy a specific parking spot. This guarantees they will have a place to park each and every morning without having to race their fate.

Conestoga College is not the only campus with overly parking and problems with availability.

Don Macdonald, a professor at Macdonald University in Kitchener, left his professorship of 11 years on Aug. 10 because of a shortage in

parking.

Macdonald gave up his spot to let other waiting for a couple of hours to have a parking pass, according to a CBC news report. He had been waiting on the bus stop with hundreds of other people to buy one of the 2,000 parking passes available to the 12,000 students and 5,000 employees at the school.

He gave up to his frustration left the bus and quit his job.

I read straight up and said, "I'm not holding this time. I don't have to put up with this. I'm resigning," he told the CBC news reporter.

As reason for his resignation, he told the reporter his early morning routine. Macdonald said he would leave his house around 4:30 a.m. to ensure he got a parking spot, even though he did not have to teach until 8:00 in the afternoon.

Professors at Conestoga may not be quite as limited and difficult to parking at Conestoga, but it is certainly not perfect.

Unfortunately, not all of us have the luxury of walking away from the problem.

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Students flip for pancakes

By KAREN BAYNE

And anyone would have been proud.

Whether they woke up early or stopped by before their first class, many Conestoga students ate free pancakes with syrup for breakfast on Sept. 8.

The second pancake breakfast, organized by Conestoga Students Inc. started at 9 a.m. in the library's down stair, the house of hungry students crowded out the door and down the hall.

Nearly 400 pancake wars were made for the morning giveaway and Gabe Byrne, CSI president, who helped served two previous pan-

cake

breaks, both third-year accounting students, were grateful for the free fare. Delibiancy smiled and said she would not have other wars had breakfast before her morning class.

Larson, a Peterborough-based local, played live music during the breakfast. Despite missing one member of their five-man band, Larson entertained those in attendance with their walk-around. Conestoga's rock musician Mike Adamowicz about their music is available online at www.larsonmusic.ca.

While college services have been affected by the

prolonged strike of Ontario college support staff workers, CSI welcomed the support and positive attitudes of students during CSI events last week, said Byrne.

"I've not heard anything negative," she said. Although students may not have access to all of the college's regular services, the pancake breakfast and other CSI events are meant to create the college experience for students, said Byrne.

"It's the first week back to school."

In addition to the pancake breakfast, Byrne said she attended and enjoyed other CSI events the first week of school, including the Food Party on Sept. 8.



PHOTO BY KAREN BAYNE

Students at Conestoga College ate more than 4,000 free pancakes after waiting in line at the free pancake breakfast on Sept. 8. The breakfast was hosted by Conestoga Students Inc.

Students must deal with maintenance problems

By HARLEY
HARTMAN-CONELLOR

One of the most stressful times for college students is usually the first week of school, especially for those who are moving into residence. For many it's their first time away from home.

There's the issue of having to share a room with a roommate, negotiating the shared and the maintenance problems with the room.

"When I moved in, I didn't experience any major problems, but I did have a few inconveniences. I didn't have a door for the bedroom, had some, perhaps one for the bathroom in maintenance plots," said Larissa Lake, who was in the first year of the housing maintenance specialist program. "I just filled out a

form at the residence last week and then got two up things within that first week."

The students are not the only ones who find the first week stressful. The residence staff have a lot to deal with as well. Jennifer Conley, a customer service representative at Conestoga residence, said that several days went smoothly. The issues came up afterward.

Conley said that most of the issues involved maintenance in the rooms.

"Sometimes students in the furniture have been the biggest one," she said, referring to the condition of some of the furniture in the rooms.

She said that another issue was trying to get the rules across to the students. "That's still an ongoing battle."



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Path to college daunting to some

By MAGGIE KERRY

As many families apply into the maze of how to get into college, some high school graduates have begun a new routine.

While some parents already along these students' way, they do not have the funds to attend college right out of high school, even with their aid assistance from the Ontario Student Assistance Program and other bursaries.

Members of the post from friends family and high school teachers to attend a post-secondary institution, many students go to take a job now to work full time in an effort to live on money.

Russ Roberts an Etobicoke

College Institute graduate, agreed that the pressure can be overwhelming.

"You just get out of high school and you're still a teenager. (It's) hard to decide what you want to do with the rest of your life so you're flipping burgers forever," she said.

Many students say that they believe a "good" job is attainable without a degree or at the very least, a diploma. Roberts said she thinks finding a job is easier for her now as a student with no responsibilities.

"During school, Boston Jones is like 'Not now, not now,'" she said.

Roberts said she was caught

up in every university she applied to, but lack of resources in preventing her from pursuing her dream career as an anthropologist.

Pursuing a dream job might be one of a struggle for young adults of future costs their lives.

"Everyone goes to high school, except for a tiny, tiny select few. If tuition was lower, and you really wanted to do something you could. There's nothing else holding you back," Roberts explained.

Seneca, Doncaster, a Toronto Community College student in the midst of a program change, had a slightly different opinion in regard to tuition costs.

"You're going to be taught what you're going to be doing for the rest of your life," Doncaster said. "That's what it's all about. You have to try things to decide what you're going to do. You have to put in your time and money to get a higher paying job."

The Liberal party recently launched their new platform for the Oct. 1 election, promising "a new tuition grant for full-time undergraduate students from lower- and middle-income families that will save \$1,600 per student in university and \$700 per student in college, annually," according to Nelson McHenry's The Calgary Herald website.

Alternatively, the

Progressive Conservative party is promising to create up to 50,000 post-secondary spaces in Ontario. They are also promising to "find new ways to ensure success, ethical ability and confidence in our post-secondary institutions," as well as "raise the threshold on financial support, to make it more accessible for students from families to send their children to college or university," according to the Ontario PC Party website.

If the parties follow through with the financial aid they are promising, future high school graduates might find the path to post-secondary education a little easier to tread.

Aboriginal Services popular with students from all over

By ANDREW PUGH

Why are the Aboriginal services being offered at Conestoga so appealing to students of other nationalities?

Myeong Henry, manager of the Aboriginal Services department at the Doncaster campus, was pleasantly surprised that these services were attracting more than just the Aboriginal students of Conestoga College.

"Friendships have been formed with Aboriginal students and students from Mexico and El Salvador and even some Asian countries. It is nice to see the friendships being formed and will not end soon."

His reasoning for why these services are so popular amongst other students is also fascinating.

"Aboriginal Services is

steering other indigenous people from various backgrounds mostly because of the natural connection indigenous share," he said.

Friendships have been formed with Aboriginal students and students from Mexico and El Salvador and even some Asian countries.
— Myeong Henry

The services offered will include packages such as personal coach and writing assistance that will consist of students' food, such as soup and Aboriginal foods.

The handbook will take place at the campus's main meeting building.

The annual powwow, which had the school's recreation centre packed last year, will take place Feb. 26, 2012.

Last year there were approximately 200 Aboriginal students at Conestoga College but that number is growing with 300 now in campus.

Henry will also be looking at a one-hour long radio show called Mohk Waken on Conestoga's radio station, G112, every morning at 7 a.m. It will include teachings, discussions on current events and feature Aboriginal comedy.

For more information, Myeong Henry can be reached at 905-452-9100 ext. 222 or at the Aboriginal Student Services Office in Room G111-10.



PHOTO BY ANDREW PUGH

Myeong Henry is the Aboriginal Student Services Office's opinion about upcoming events and hot topics.

Rogers' new lineup of shows sure to keep you entertained

By ANDREW PUGH

Good friends? From Tinseltown? Meet James Earl Ray. Rogers TV has so many new and exciting shows that you're bound to find one you like.

School is back in session and schedules are just packed to ensure students are finding it harder and harder at that time to fit the gym. With new shows such as North Body Rogers TV gives students the option of trying home and working out the Monday blues rather than

making the trek to athletic centres.

Represents an upcoming new lineup to bring viewers more and entertained this season as the weather gets colder. **North Body College** graduate Taylor Bink, hosts **North Body**, a 30-minute workout that is "fun and challenging," according to part-time Conestoga college student Gregory Sperry, 22.

Gregory expressed at Bink's gym in "Guelph, Monday Fitness" during the summer. While he did not

ever meet Bink, he was told about the show by some work out buddies and was pleasantly surprised with the content.

With more than 40,000 hours of experience in personal training, Bink offers one-on-one workouts that is more group and fun while helping them keep their goals fitting right.

Each Bink's episode airs on Thursdays at 8:30 a.m. or 9:30 a.m. on Sunday at 7:30 a.m. If you would rather workout your body at home and take

in some Bangora action, Forbes Kitchener Bangora Hockey returns with a "dynamic lineup of Bangora home and away games."

Last year during the season it was the most reliable source of local news "and Jeremy Allen, a Conestoga law and security administration student and avid Bangora fan."

"I literally watched it like a was my job."

If hockey doesn't awaken your soul, and you can't wait around for the 10 p.m. Major in your search for all

things under on the local news scene. Bink work host **Carmen Thompson**, a Conestoga college graduate, will take viewers backcountry to experience some of the hardest working, unappreciated talent in the region.

At the end of the day, if one of these shows meets your needs, you can always participate in the traditional TV Bangs. If you don't luck, viewers have the chance to win their share of \$5,000 in weekly prizes and you will also be supporting local Bink Clubs and charities.



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Life is a ride running a carnival

By RUSSELL BROWN

Anyone who goes to a fair, such as the Cambridge Fall Fair held in Dickliffe Park last week, can count on having a relaxing, fun and stress-free time. Unless you're the busy parent supervising the rules, games and food concessions that contribute to a large part of the fair experience.

From the time of arrival, it's a mad few days of waking up a crazy few days of late traffic and a long night, tearing down tables loading back down the road. Not to mention dealing with whatever might go wrong in between.

Hardy parents and operators Campbell, Apperly and his team, including the O'Learys, Quinlan and Martins arrived since 1987. The management company is truly into two weeks, orange and blue, with each representing a different group. The groups and support of the Cambridge Fall Fair from Sept. 8 to 11, bring you along a fair of fun, rides and concessions, including fireworks such as the Toti A Wheel, carousel, Ferris wheel and an assortment of family and "adult" rides, as well as games and concessions.

Danny Campbell, 41, owner-manager and former Camanche College student, was born with the carnival business in his blood. Like his father before him, his plan is on making a life of it. "There hasn't been a year when I wasn't travelling with the carnival," he said. He's got a lot to keep track of but isn't too worried about how the fair will do during one of the Dickliffe Fall Fair really good support here," he chuckles.

He started working the games at the age of 11 and now drives around the lot in a gold car, supervising all the work that goes into setting up



Photo by Russell Brown
Danny Campbell, owner-manager of Campbell's Amusement, takes a break from his job on parked in front of the carnival at the Cambridge Fall Fair on Sept. 8.

a show. Today he's wearing shades and a light blue vest and sports a mostly orange shirt. Many of his staff keep near their stations in front of rides or games, chatting with one another or doing last-minute checks.

Campbell has over 50 staff on the payroll. No one brings their kids on the road — even Danny's two kids stay at home in Brantford — but there are a few kids around the show, including a small terror and a tiny girl on a beach bike of the staff are wearing the company's uniform bright blue T-shirts with the Campbell's Amusement logo, a clever design of a C wrapped on top of an A, suggesting the shape of a Ferris wheel.

Danny's staff doesn't live off carnival food, as might be expected. "We have a cook house," Danny said. "We try to stay away from the corn dogs and the fries. We eat regular food, just like you'd eat at home."

Many of them have been



Photo by Russell Brown
The Cambridge Fall Fair is up the stakes on Sept. 8, the perfect weather and students coming, making it a busy day for the fair.

working with the show for 10 years or more. This is not the case, however, for Anne McKeown, 45, an operator polished with a twinkle in his eyes, who has been a ride operator for a total of two days. Originally from Brantford, he helped with our show during the show's last stop in Paris and then after was offered a job. "I slept on it," Anne said, standing in front of the Ferris wheel waiting for the fair to open, operating in the blue bladed down. "And the next day I said, 'Sure, I'll take a job.'" He added, "All I did before was go to the gym and eat. Now I'm doing something with my life."

So far, he has been working on the carnival. He and a lot of the rides on the fair. He found it in the Cambridge Fall Fair were around 11 or 14 and "real nice" kids. "When I'm in front of the ride, they say, 'Thank you, sir' or 'Thank

you, ma'am!'"

When asked if he is making a career of his new job, Anne said he plans to finish the season. "They've got about six weeks after that. Next year, we'll see."

Campbell's company, Lewis from Brantford to Theodora. The company travels as far north as South Lake Mary, and Danny said that one day they can move — probably the worst weather a carnival could ask for. But the show must go on, regardless of the weather. "We set up and take down on the road. We're open when it rains," Danny said. "We just get fewer people coming out."

Once the season is over, the show returns to its home base in Brantford. Danny said about one people still work at the show during the winter months. The rest of the staff find winter work, such as truck driving, to keep busy

until the spring.

Whether you're on one of the Cambridge Fall Fair, you can have another day with one breaking down in the middle of operation. But it's not another show in another town, and Danny's already come out.

2001 FALL FAIRS

- Bedford Fall Fair: Oct. 5-11, 1 Park Ave., Bedford
- Grande Falls Sept. 22-23, 400 Colford Road 25, Grande
- Kootenai World's Fair: Oct. 7-13, Old Highway 4, Kootenai
- Rex Fair: Oct. 7-13, Main Street, Rex
- American Fair: Sept. 22-23, 800 1st Ave. S.E., Astoria
- Tri-Cities Fall Fair: Sept. 22-Oct. 2, 81 Ross St., Tri-Cities



Photo by Russell Brown
Girl Ashkenazi Dance Academy performs the Girl Ashkenazi Dance at the 2001, a South Asian cultural fair which was held in front of Dickliffe Park on Sept. 10.

Butter chicken for dinner, anyone?

By JENNIFER SMITH

If you had business at City Hall on Sept. 10, whether it was getting a parking ticket or bringing the mayor a flower, you were sure to get more than you bargained for. Why? Because of Hindu 2001.

Make it an annual South Asian cultural fair which takes place in the square in front of Kootenai City Hall. This year it filled the square with music, vibrant colors and the smell of butter chicken and more bread.

Make it more together because and multicultural events are involved in the South Asian community and always there to push their voices and

promote their business.

Make it, Kishore Khanna, was pleased with this year's turnout.

"We had that with a lot of crowd (this year) and it was amazing the South Asian community that has supported us," he said.

There was also live music to entertain throughout the day. Local dance groups and musicians put on cultural displays for spectators in the square.

"They're amazing! We've done really well, very colorful and vibrant," said organizer Kishore Khanna.

Khanna has been in the food business and said he liked how it promoted cultural awareness in the community.

Parent Kalluri as part of the dance group, Kishore Khanna, one of the more unexpected performers of the day.

When asked what it meant to her to be a part of the fair, she said "It means a lot, we've been trying to promote our group and our culture for a while now and I love to be here."

Make it part of the Indian Cultural Association (ICA), ICA president, Kishore Khanna, plays an integral role in organizing the event.

The South Asian community is so vibrant here and this is the perfect stage for them to come and showcase what they have, what they can offer," said Kalluri.

Invigorating the youth vote

By ALEXANDER DEER

An independent candidate in the upcoming provincial election wants you to vote, but not necessarily for him.

Peter Davis is a 21-year-old Waterloo native who believes voting "is the first step to doing something more useful in people's communities. It's almost in politics before while for student organizational affairs in Guelph, Sherbrooke. However, it won't until he helped his team, who ran in last year's election, get elected, and another local politician with his campaign during the past federal election, that he decided to do some good for the community.

"I became more and more interested in local issues and the way people behave on a local level. They can have a very large international impact."

Without the financial backing of a party, Davis has had to rely on simple leaflets and traditional hard work such as knocking on doors to make people aware of his platform and vision.

By knocking on doors, pe-

ter is aware of what people's issues are; you get a sense of what they want out of their politicians. He said nothing he will have his platform on these issues.

He's also been campaigning in less conventional ways.

"The going to get out in the streets at night when students are walking to and from the bus and hand out leaflets and make noise that way."

He believes students respond to "buzz" on social networking sites such as Twitter and Facebook more than they do from traditional news sources. He often encourages people he meets to tweet about him using the site's hash tags posted below.

The upcoming election, Davis says, is the only one using social networking to help organize youth parties across in politics.

Leadership is an integral part of community that is advertising a more social type reason when asking youth to vote in elections by organizing vote nights — the political version of a flash mob.

Founded in 1918, their objectives are to "expand our



PHOTO BY ALEXANDER DEER

Peter Davis, an independent candidate in the upcoming Oct. 8 election, wants the campaign trail in Waterloo, knocking on doors and handing out leaflets.

democracy, strengthen our communities, advance social justice, extend economic opportunity and protect our planet," according to their website. In the past federal election, they gathered over 8,000 people to vote.

In the 2004 federal general

election, 83.9 per cent of the eligible population turned out to vote, the lowest recorded in data a drop Elections Canada attributes to a long time decline in voting among youth.

Since then, Ontario's election laws have changed in order to bring people back to the polls, especially students. One such initiative is known as the special ballot. It allows any student to vote in person a year early this vote by mail using the special ballot, a

method likely to appeal to students who are studying away from their hometowns.

Jan Ferguson, a first-year engineering technology student at Conestoga College, wasn't aware there were no elections coming up, though when asked if he would ever vote, he said, "Sure, I know where they stand on issues."

For more information on Peter Davis visit his website at PeterDavis.ca

Counsellor's Corner

Welcome from Counselling Services



To those students who are beginning their college career at Conestoga, welcome! Right now you are probably excited about opportunities to learn more about your area of study, meet other students and just find your way around campus.

We encourage you to take advantage of the many services that Counselling Services have designed to help you be successful! Professionally trained counsellors can help you reach your highest talent in the way of your reaching your educational goals. Arrange to see a counsellor if you have academic or personal concerns during your time at Conestoga. Groups and workshops are offered for such issues as performance anxiety, stress management and relaxation. Counselling is free, voluntary and confidential. We can also refer you to other College and community resources that can help.

To those students who are returning for another semester of study, welcome back! We hope the coming term provides fresh ideas and challenges, new friends and activities and brings you closer to your educational goals! Come and see us in Counselling Services if we can help in any way.

Counselling Services; 1A101
Student Life Centre

www.conestoga.ca/counselling/

Conestoga website goes mobile

By ALEXANDER DEER

Conestoga College students are now able to connect, learn and browse through a new mobile-friendly website.

The college's website, www.conestoga.ca, is now accessible through both traditional computers and mobile devices and no application is required. However, not all students know about the changes to the site, which came into effect Aug. 1.

David Aris, a first-year pre-health student and, "I didn't know about it. When asked if he would ever use it, he said, 'No, I don't have a smart phone.'"

The decision to enhance access to features and information on the website was made based on the growing number of people who are mobile devices to access the college's many websites and Anderson Kyrenson is a senior release. Kyrenson is a senior web developer who led the development project.

"I didn't know the website had been changed and Steven Penta is a second-year Information Technology student.



PHOTO BY ALEXANDER DEER

Leighton (David), a first-year pre-health student, accessed the website on a mobile-friendly website outside of residence Sept. 12.

"It would be useful if they were trying to get last minute updates on what their class was going to do."

The number of mobile devices accessing the website has doubled in the past year and accounts for almost one per cent of all website traffic.

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CONESTOGA MALL

Timmy Cam is ultimate resource

View the Tim Hortons' lineup from any college computer

By FRANK MCHENRE

For faculty staff and students with a computer, the Tim Hortons' lineup may become their ultimate resource at Queens College.

"Just a few days ago I heard of it. Somebody in here was talking about it," said second-year BSE student Corbin Galloway.

"I had no idea it existed," said Adam Dawicki, a second-year business management student.



Students at Queens College.

Queens College students, faculty and staff may not always have time for Tim Hortons' as they wait in the long daily lineups.

That (the Timmy Cam) is a huge time saver and a great idea

— Angela Doge

The not so new camera lens, as fast, been in place for three years outside the Tim Hortons above the student building, since the TV depart-

ment decided to look up an extra camera in 2000.

The camera feed is available on any computer on the Queens College network, so any-

body, staff or student, logged on to any computer in the college can view the line to decide whether they have enough time to wait for their

cup of joe.

"In first year my brother used to put the Timmy Cam up for us on our 30-minute breaks so we know if we

would make it back in time," said Michael Ford, a second-year media communications student.

To look at the current cam are simple: type timcam into the address bar of the Internet. To get a constant feed of images click on "live mode." This will update the image of the line about every 30 seconds. To refresh the image push F5.

That is a huge time saver and a great idea," said Angela Doge, a second-year pre-med nursing student.

There's no need to stress on bad hair days either. The privacy screens the image that is broadcast onto the college network has been compressed and the camera is slightly out of focus.

"We figured there would be some concern from the employees and the students about being seen on camera," said Mike Albrecht, a technical support specialist for the college and member of the Timmy Cam.

For additional security the Timmy Cam is accessible on laptops using Openview's WebTV client which also logged onto the campus network.

Student awards office has lots of free money

By BRADLEY JENSEN

It's often said that the best things in life are free, and this may be even more true when it's free money.

Students attending Queens College may qualify for awards like the ML, based on campus criteria.

Yoko Russell, who works in the student awards office and "We have so many awards and there are wonderful financial opportunities for our students."

First-year students, who completed either their second or up post-secondary education with a minimum overall average of 70 per cent, may be eligible for the Queens College Katherine Award. They could walk away with an award worth somewhere between \$500 and \$1,000, depending on their marks.

Students entering their second or third year with a grade point average of 3.75 from the 2002-03 academic year could receive the Katherine

Achievement Award — worth \$500.

To be eligible for these awards, applicants must have lived in Queens for at least 12 consecutive months and must demonstrate financial need. They must also meet other award-specific criteria.

These criteria, as well as information on other available awards, bursaries and scholarships are available on the recently redesigned Queens' old web and awards website.

Dave Parikhian, a second-year journalism broadcast student, said he hasn't applied for any awards yet because he doesn't know anything about them.

"I mean I hear about bursaries and awards and things of that nature and I know it's kind of on us to do research about them... My goal was to find out, but not like weeks before it's too late."

However, students who want to look over awards

the departmental awards in Sept. 30.

Parikhian looked in the website and found that he could be eligible for the Katherine Award. He said he plans to do more research on this in the next future.

Students may also want to regularly check their Queens College email as the financial aid office will be sending information on future available awards at the beginning of each month.

Although many awards require students to prove financial need, some do not. Students who don't need assistance should still keep their eyes peeled according to a declaration on the website. An award simply recognizes some form of achievement, with no mention of other requirements.

Bursaries, on the other hand, are based on financial need.

Scholarships are based on students' academic performance, without there may be other components to them.



Photo by BRADLEY JENSEN

Dave Parikhian, a second-year journalism broadcast student, checks the balance of his bank account during a school day at Queens College. He says he doesn't know how to look into awards to help pay for school as expenses pile up.

CSI wants you to get involved

By **HEATHER A. MORGAN**

Whether you are new to Conestoga College or a returning student, the first week always brings surprises. Fortunately, those provided by Conestoga Students Inc. (CSI) were pleasant ones.

CSI tries its best to ensure that all students have the chance to be involved in the various events that happen throughout the first few weeks.

Every year, Orientation week is filled with information about upcoming events with opportunities to get involved.

With the help of Orientation leaders brought to you by the Student Life Department, you are guided to where you need to be and made to feel right at home.

This year, CSI is trying to give students more than loans and free concerts throughout the year. President of CSI, Clara Ryan, and three new web site, conestogastudents.com

is a new social network that they created that offers students the chance to connect and receive updates on every thing that is going on.

"We've had a lot of first years sign up and they're all messaging me on the CSI social media part and asking how they can be involved and how to get others to do so."

"The really interesting is actually we a lot of students wanting to attend and this year it's not only first years it's a lot of second and third years that are excited about the things that are coming," Ryan said.

On Sept. 7, musician Wayne Hoffman performed and amazed the students with his discolor and music skills.

For the first time this year, the top pub acts will be free to those VIP students who signed up on the website during the first weeks of school.

There was also a comedian from *Monty Python's Video on Trial* who performed on Sept.



First-year Conestoga students, Elliott Lee in front row (middle), Justin Peltier in front row (left), and Brandon Korman in front row (right), are adjusting to their new school. They have found the experience enjoyable so far.

14 and the band Down With Webster took to the stage on Sept. 17.

Whether it's free concerts or social events to entertain you in your spare time, make sure to

check CSI's website regularly for upcoming events that you do not want to miss.

TRAFFIC TRIBULATION AT CONESTOGA COLLEGE



Photo by RADIAL, BERRY

Traffic was still congested entering Conestoga College's Dixie Campus last week. Protesters are continuing to slow down the traffic, but are no longer holding exhibits as long.

Below right, Sharon Oakley and Barry Beaumont, Conestoga support workers, speak to frustrated motorists about the roadblock at the entrance to the college Sept. 8.



Photo by RADIAL, BERRY



Photo by RADIAL, BERRY

This entertainment has a big impact

By KENNETH ROYER

Students are being encouraged to give theatre a chance.

Impact 2001 is a festival event being held by MT Space in Rutherford beginning Wednesday at 7 p.m. The first event was held in 1998. The event runs until Sunday, Sept. 23 and has performances until 10 p.m.

The organizers call their work, Theatre for Social Change. They take real stories and problems from communities, groups or individuals and reimagine them around them.

"People come to us usually people working with oppressed persons, to try to discover a different medium through which they can communicate with the people they they work with and for," said Pam Papp, artistic director and conference co-ordinator and artist with MT Space.

Many different cultural groups from around the world will be performing for four days, including groups from Colombia, Lebanon, Edmonton, British Columbia and others from the Hartford Region use of which in the organizers' own group.



PHOTO BY KENNETH ROYER

The MT Space acting group performs for the Impact 2001 festival at their studio located in Rutherford. The group includes (left to right) Khalil Abumohammed, Amir Cook, Pam Papp, Anissa Broadfoot, Tawfik Ben-M. Carthy, Trevor Cope and Nade Hamel.

MT Space uses theatre as a way to involve and engage students in issues faced by many people that daily shape the topics the show deal with include gender, sexuality, cultural and historical issues.

There will also be coffee

events held throughout the mornings and afternoons starting Thursday, before the evening activities. The four-day conference usually runs 11:30, but is only 10:30 for students, with most of student ID. The fee is to cover the cost of food and

refreshments each day.

The document is offered specifically to make the conference accessible to all students.

We want students from all disciplines and walks of life to be able to attend and engage in the discussion.

and view their opinion in Canadian theatre and Canadian theatre practice. We'll Rock Comedy, artists, associate and graphic designer of MT Space.

There will be discounts on all of the past performances as well. A party is held on Saturday night at the Riverside Theatre (formerly known as The Gap, and costs \$10).

Free programs are also available for those who are looking to view some history. Small programs are held at my music, dance, spoken word and language are held to ensure that local artists and students can network with the international artists.

"The idea is to create a meeting space that is fun and that will hopefully result in many ideas, and information are happenings and cultural events," Camargo said.

The festival will focus on engaging the audience as they learn about displacement of Aboriginal and immigrants. MT Space has a goal to use theatre to get people involved in cultural and social issues as they today.

Hoffman stuns Sanctuary students

By DANIEL MALLIN

In the words of Willie Nelson "After so many readings I'm never allowed to find my most solid footed sound." I was surprised, considering my New Mexico town of New England and Nelson in the course of an hour by the charismatic, outstanding and, above all, hilarious musician Wayne Hoffman.

If you were at the Sanctuary at 7 p.m. on Sept. 7, then you probably knew what I'm talking about. But what really kept my interest wasn't the dancing and mind readings alone, it was the acoustic, bare solo which he explained his feelings in our modern day of change, our cynicism and that old tale of faith, as he became a flag in later in some New York State dancing on about something again and then telling students Hoffman, however, takes time out during his act to briefly explain things such as how his students into anatomy, psychology and human behavior are really the rest of his skill as a mind reader.

However, to a mass of statistical knowledge, that possibly, explain the jaw dropping, Hoffman be shared with Connecticut College students.

Amazing facts such as his psychology students which he used to change the tone of an student's wish and take a picture with another student, a camera without



PHOTO BY DANIEL MALLIN

Mr. Hoffman Wayne Hoffman performs in the Sanctuary at noon on Sept. 7.

holding either but these didn't even come close to his changing facts where he, unannounced, revealed that then someone filled a glass can without it ever leaving the room's orbit.

Even after the show Hoffman still went on sleeping and singing. During the middle of the show he had asked everyone to write something down so he could pick out random people and declare what they'd written.

After the show I went up to take two portrait photos. I got nervous and asked him if he could guess the name that was written on my hand.

He told me apologetically that he didn't have time to figure it out and he asked me what it was, assuming it was of course. I told him it was Oscar Wilde. He then asked me my birthday, to which I surprisingly answered Sept. 8. Then right before my eyes he put down took his show off and pulled out a small piece of paper that said Oscar Wilde. I was astounded.

As no poem did he have the time or means to write anything down and put it in his shoe. He explained that everyone's names go off the air, and he picks up on them at random without knowing who they belong to. He writes them down and puts them in his shoe.

Sometimes they come up in his act, sometimes they come up when he is answering questions after the show, but sometimes he goes home at the end of the night with a shoe full of unfulfilled dreams.

Hoffman proved to one lunch hour that he is certainly a man of no small talent. With appearances on such shows as Open University and Harvard Stern. In addition, he performs at hospitals, local shows, and other venues and does keynote speaking. For further information about Hoffman's content, visit at www.hoffmannmag.com.

Pond Party a splash

By KENNETH ROYER

Connecticut Students Inc. made a big splash at this year's Pond Party.

On Sept. 8 hundreds of students enjoyed the event, to celebrate its first food beverages and entertainment all courtesy of CSI.

The recent Connecticut support staff strike caused worry that there would be a delay in goods ordered for the event.

But that wasn't the case.

The dozens of food, drink and music had students pouring out the Sanctuary doors 10 minutes before the event even started.

"For an event the theme I wanted you, it was some pretty busy," said first-year police headquarters student Perry Connors.

"It looks like we did a real good job here. The students are hungry," laughed councilor Park Kline, who had volunteered to cook for sure for the event.

Local band Arlio led the outdoor steps with both new and old music throughout the afternoon. The first-year old alternative rock band originates from Hamilton.

Free T-shirts, caps and sunglasses were given to the students located out by Connecticut volunteers and CSI. Chances of winning free admission to local events — such as Thompson's Swampfest — were offered to the party as well.

CSI also operated refreshment booths to use throughout the Pond Party including one booth that offered a 10 minute massage.

Students left with their clothes dry and belted.

Cloudy weather threatened the afternoon but no rain came in the Pond Party joy.

"Everything turned out better than expected," said CSI president Chris Byrne.

Building on his future

by BRENDAN DALY

A Conestoga College graduate has set the bar high, hoping to make his way into the position of national bodybuilding champion.

David Kofke, a 27-year-old general business graduate, is confident that he will be heading to the Ontario Physique Association nationals. However, another second year third place will solidify Kofke's position, limited by place on schedule his body into a first place victory.

Kofke has been working out since his senior year of high school. A former power lifter, Kofke decided to make his transition into bodybuilding after he sustained multiple injuries such as a tibial stress fracture, a round down and a neck. Kofke was motivated to continue after sustaining rapid physical changes in his body.

Although young, Kofke has plenty of experience competing. He has been working out for four years and has been competing since the beginning of the year. He competed in the Ontario Physique Events for an and open light-heavyweight

category, placing second and third respectively.

According to OPA president Ron Bleske, the OPA is Canada's biggest physique organization in terms of the number of competitors and competitors. Of the major competitors, Kofke must be able to stand out within a group of all-around bodybuilders. Competitors will be judged based on muscle mass and development, and how they present themselves on posing, appearance, etc.

"I have to make sure I train hard enough until the previous to get first place. My goal over the next year is to gain 10 pounds (I) want to be the best I can, then I have to be at the top of my weight category."

Kofke, who can bench press 325 pounds, has committed to a daily routine that consists of two 30-minute cardio sessions and a trip to the gym. In addition, he consumes only high protein food sources such as turkey, chicken, milk and egg whites for a total of 3,000 calories per day during the pre-competition stage.

"With the pre-competition, I go into my own world and I



Kofke competes

David Kofke, a graduate of the present business program at Conestoga College, poses during an Ontario Physique Association event.

feel like I'm in a laboratory. There are a lot of female I won't talk to for three months and I won't go out on week ends. And, of course, I never sleep."

Despite these sacrifices, Kofke admits that the discipline and motivation have paid off. He noted that bodybuilding is the outlet for stress and anger. It teaches discipline



Kofke is confident

Kofke "bested on the gym" on days 11 at the OPA's Ontario Physique Association nationals.

that cannot be required anywhere else. It is a way of life — that provides a healthy lifestyle, and one that he does not plan on abandoning any time soon.

Aside from a part-time job, Kofke recently acquired a personal training certificate and is looking to work full time in the fitness industry in the near future.

Conestoga has a new varsity sports team

by JIMMIE ROBINSON

The new school year brought problems, arrangements and a new varsity sports team.

Women's rugby has been added to the Ontario College Athletic Association (OCAA) for the 1991 season.

After being the most requested sport over the past couple of years, OCAA held a trial season last year and selected three schools: Niagara, Seneca and York.

Eight teams will participate this season and among them is Conestoga College. Conestoga will compete in the West Region Conference with the three remaining teams from last season.

Over 30 players attended the first day of tryouts which was held on Sept. 8. The team's assistant coach, Earl Jones, said and are all senior students. History Council, was played with the fastest and most the team looks confident.

"There's a lot of talent to choose from," said Council. "The team will be coached by Jack Kirk. He is looking forward to developing a strong women's rugby program for Conestoga."

"This is the first year that Conestoga has had a women's team and we are looking to add a coachman for years to come," said Kirk. "We have a great group of women who have worked extremely hard on our first week of tryouts, and if we continue our work ethic and develop our team, we will have a successful season."

Kirk said he is impressed with the leadership he has seen from the members of the team and he expects to coach a hard working squad.

"My expectation is that we play each game hard for the full 60 minutes," he said. "We don't have a lot of time on our team but we do have a lot of fitness and determination."

Paul Coleman, director of athletics and recreation, believes the new team is a positive addition to the school.

"I believe our female athletes are up to the task of being the best," he said. "Rugby is one of the fastest growing sports in Ontario especially throughout high school. It has become a national program to be seen play the sport they love at a highly competitive, post-secondary level."

Women's rugby is one of three sports that have been added to the Conestoga roster over the past three years. Cross-country and men's and women's volleyball are also recent additions.

The rugby team's first game is scheduled for Sept. 22, against Seneca. However, the season may be delayed due to the strike. Coleman said the team are allowed to practice because they can't be denied the outdoor field, but the season can't be put on hold.

The strike has also affected all indoor sports teams including men's and women's volleyball, basketball, soccer and extramural ice hockey. The tryouts have been delayed because the recreation centre is currently closed.

Although the rugby season is yet to begin, the team already has training on their mind.

"We have a good chance to be successful in the OCAA if we continue to train and work hard each and every practice," said Kirk. "We expect to finish in the top two in our division and represent our school in the playoffs."

And as Council put it, they're "going for gold."



Photo by Jimmie Robinson

The Conestoga women's rugby team played a competitive scrimmage game during their first tryout. Over 30 players displayed their heart and hustle for coach Jack Kirk in hopes of making the 30-player roster.

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